ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A roller drive unit for transporting items of freight in an aircraft cargo hold is provided in which a drive motor is coupled to a drive roller. The drive roller comprises a core and a covering fastened thereto that has an outer surface that can be brought into frictional contact with a bottom of an item of freight in order to transport said item. So that high durability can be achieved even when the material used for the covering is relatively soft, it is proposed that the covering should comprise at least one delimiting layer, so constructed and so disposed between at least one inner covering layer and an outer covering layer that on one hand the covering layers are firmly connected to one another and on the other hand a spreading of a fissure from the one covering layer into the other covering layer is limited.